

Appl. No. 10/602,371
Amdt. dated August 26, 2004
Reply to Office Action of August 11, 2004

Amendments to the Claims

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) An integrally molded carrier for carrying multiple containers by their necks, comprising a substantially planar web having multiple nodes defining multiple annular supports with each annular support having a flexible annular flange provided with a plurality of radial slots for releasably engaging the necks of the containers, wherein the centers of the annular supports are substantially aligned along a common axis, and a generally U-shaped handle flexibly attached to said web at two points that are substantially equidistant from the centers of said multiple annular supports.
2. (original) The carrier of claim 1 wherein said U-shaped handle is provided with flex points that are substantially aligned with said common axis.
3. (original) The carrier of claim 2 wherein said web has three nodes defining three annular supports.
4. (original) The carrier of claim 2 wherein said web has four nodes defining four annular supports.
5. (original) The carrier of claim 2 wherein said flexible annular flange is provided with radial ribs extending inwardly of said annular supports.
6. (original) The carrier of claim 5 wherein said flexible annular flange comprises a frusto-conical portion.
7. (cancelled)

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8. (currently amended) The carrier of claim 7 6 wherein said flexible annular flange is discontinuous.

9. (currently amended) The carrier of claim 7 6 wherein said flexible annular flange includes substantially flat inner edge portions.

10. (original) The carrier of claim 9 wherein said annular supports are provided with circumferential ridges.

11. (original) The carrier of claim 10 wherein said web is provided with ridges along its periphery.

12. (original) The carrier of claim 11 made of high density polyethylene.